

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request further examination and consideration in view of the arguments set forth fully below. Claims 1-8, 10-36 and 38-48 are pending in this application. Within the Office Action, Claims 1-8, 10-35, 44-46 and 48 have been allowed, Claims 36, 38-42 and 47 have been rejected and Claim 43 has been objected to. By the above amendment, Claim 36 has been amended and Claims 43 and 47 have been canceled. Accordingly, Claims 1-8, 10-36, 38-42, 44-46 and 48 are pending.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Within the Office Action, Claims 36, 38, 39 and 47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,135,110 to Morita ("Morita"). Within the Office Action it is also stated that Claim 43 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By the above amendment, Claim 43 has been canceled and the limitations from Claim 43 have been added into the independent Claim 36. For at least these reasons, the independent Claim 36 is allowable.

Claims 38 and 39 are both dependent upon the independent Claim 36. As discussed above, the independent Claim 36 is allowable. Accordingly, Claims 38 and 39 are both also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

By the above amendment, Claim 47 has been canceled.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Within the Office Action, Claims 40-42 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morita.

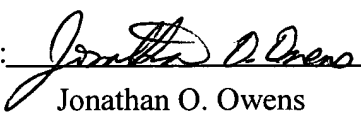
Claims 40-42 are all dependent upon the independent Claim 36. As discussed above, the independent Claim 36 is allowable. Accordingly, Claims 40-42 are all also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

Within the Office Action, it is indicated that Claims 1-8, 10-35, 44-46 and 48 are all allowed.

For the reasons given above, Applicant respectfully submits that the Claims 1-8, 10-36, 38-42, 44-46 and 48 are in a condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

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By: 
Jonathan O. Owens
Reg. No.: 37,902
Attorney for Applicant